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FLOOR DEBATE

March 13, 2001      LB 114

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...from somebody who has done nothing to violate that privilege. This bill does not deal with a driving offense. If we want to teach young people respect for the law, the first thing we should do is make them understand that there is a logical connection between what they are told not to do and the punishment imposed for doing it. This has nothing to do with misuse of the privilege to drive, therefore, they should not be punished by being deprived of that privilege by the state. Let parents run their households as they choose, but the state should not be asked to do this.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers, for opening on FA99. Mr. Clerk, priority motion? Senator Chambers, your light is next on your amendment FA99 to the committee amendments.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, the chipmunks are scurrying. The book says, the Good Book, the Bible, in the last days, people will observe signs and wonders. Somebody is going to have to let us know what these signs are, what these wonders are, so that we will recognize them when we see them. I'm not the one who put this stuff into this bill. Others who brought the bill did so. Those who love this bill have done so. My job is to deal with the cards that were dealt. Since we're in the kind of game that LB 114 has presented to us, I'm going to see that we play it. I think it's going to be interesting from this point onward to observe the strategy of those who love this bill. Whatever they bring, I am prepared to deal with that. They cannot bring anything I have not seen before. They can do only one thing, only one thing to overcome my opposition to the bill. I would still have criticisms, but take out all of that language that has to do with depriving these young people of their driver's license. Along with that, change that language in the exemption. Take away "wine" and "sacramental" from that language dealing with the exemption from the application of this law as it applies to underage consumers of alcohol. If those two things are done, then we've reached a point where discussion and negotiation can take place. I do not believe anything worthy of the name "negotiation" can take place